

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 138-144, 146, 147, 149-151, 168, 170-178, and 180-186 without prejudice. Please amend Claims 148, 152-167, 169, and 179 and add new Claims 187-218. A complete copy of the claims as amended in this Amendment B including a marked-up version of each claim which is amended herein appears below.

Claims 1-147 (Cancelled).

1 148. (Currently Amended) A pre-packaged cheese bag, said bag comprising:
2 at least one sheet of web material including a hood having at least one a fold
3 structure and an opening located generally opposite said fold structure; located between
4 first and second ends of said hood, said hood also having first and second areas of
5 structural weakness respectively located intermediate said fold and said and second ends
6 of said hood, said fold defining a top of said cheese bag;
7 a first side panel included in said web material and extending from said first end of
8 said hood;
9 a second side panel included in said web material;
10 a bottom portion included in said web material and located intermediate said first
11 and second panels, said bottom portion defining a bottom of said cheese bag;

12 ~~at least one~~ a reclosable fastener structure including first and second interlockable
13 fastener tracks each having a skirt structure of skirt web material extending ~~therefrom~~;
14 therefrom, said skirt structures each including a distal ~~margin~~; portion, one of said distal
15 margin portions being coupled to said ~~web material~~ at, ~~at least one predetermined~~
16 ~~location~~; first end of said hood and said first side panel, the other of said distal portions
17 being coupled to said second end of said hood;
18 a backing strip coupled to said second skirt structure and having an edge extending
19 downwardly from said other of said distal portions; and
20 an opening located between said downwardly extending edge of said backing strip
21 and said second side panel;
22 wherein said first and second interlockable fastener tracks of said reclosable fastener
23 structure extend into said hood toward said top of said reclosable bag above said areas of
24 structural weakness, and wherein said cheese bag is capable of being filled with at least
25 one food product through said opening;
26 said pre-packaged cheese bag being filled with at least one cheese.

149-151. (Cancelled).

1 152. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ A pre-packaged cheese bag ~~of claim 148~~ as defined in
2 Claim 148, wherein said skirt web material is integral to said reclosable fastener
3 structure.

1 153. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ pre-packaged cheese bag ~~of claim 148 as defined in~~
2 Claim 148, wherein said skirt web material is coupled to said reclosable fastener
3 structure.

1 154. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ pre-packaged cheese bag ~~of claim 152 as defined in~~
2 Claim 152, wherein said integral skirt includes an outside surface and an inside surface;
3 wherein the distal margin ~~being is~~ located on the outside surface;
4 wherein the inside surface ~~including includes~~ a predetermined area having a releasable
5 adhesive material thereon;
6 whereby a peelable seal may be formed.

1 155. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ pre-packaged cheese bag ~~of claim 148 as defined in~~
2 Claim 148, wherein said web material of said pre-packaged bag is substantially
3 comprised of a sheet of a parent film material having predetermined dimensions.

1 156. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ prepackaged cheese bag ~~of claim 148 further~~
2 ~~including at least two areas of structural weakness and~~ as defined in Claim 148, wherein
3 said fold structure is located between and defined by said ~~two~~ first and second areas of
4 structural weakness.

1 157. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ pre-packaged cheese bag ~~of claim 156~~ as defined in
2 Claim 156, wherein said first and second areas of structural weakness are integral to said
3 parent film.

1 158. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ pre-packaged cheese bag ~~of claim 156~~ as defined in
2 Claim 156, wherein said first and second areas of structural weakness extend linearly
3 across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of web material.

1 159. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ pre-packaged cheese bag ~~of claim 158~~ as defined in
2 Claim 158, wherein said predetermined dimension is width.

1 160. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ pre-packaged cheese bag ~~of claim 158~~ as defined in
2 Claim 158, wherein said predetermined dimension is length.

1 161. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ pre-packaged cheese bag ~~of claim 156~~ as defined in
2 Claim 156, wherein said first and second areas of structural weakness extend non-linearly
3 across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of web material.

1 162. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ pre-packaged cheese bag ~~of claim 161~~ as defined in
2 Claim 161, wherein said predetermined dimension is width.

1 163. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ pre-packaged cheese bag ~~of claim 161~~ as defined in
2 Claim 161, wherein said predetermined dimension is length.

1 164. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ pre-packaged cheese bag ~~of claim 156~~ as defined in
2 Claim 156, wherein said first and second areas of structural weakness extend across a
3 predetermined dimension of said sheet of web material in a predetermined pattern.

1 165. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ pre-packaged cheese bag ~~of claim 156~~ as defined in
2 Claim 156, wherein said first and second areas of structural weakness comprise
3 perforations.

1 166. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ pre-packaged cheese bag ~~of claim 156~~ as defined in
2 Claim 156, wherein said first and second areas of structural weakness comprise scoring.

1 167. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ pre-packaged cheese bag ~~of claim 156~~ as defined in
2 Claim 156, wherein said first and second areas of structural weakness microperforations.

168. (Cancelled.

1 169. (Currently Amended) A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product,
2 said reclosable bag comprising:

at least one sheet of web material including a first area of structural weakness and a second area of structural weakness;

said sheet of web material including at least one fold structure located between and defined by said first and second areas of structural weakness, and a fill opening; weakness, said fold structure defining a top of said reclosable bag;

said sheet of web material including a first panel coupled to said fold structure adjacent said first area of structural weakness and a second panel; ~~coupled to said fold structure adjacent said second area of structural weakness;~~

a bottom portion included in said sheet of web material and located intermediate said first and second side panels, said bottom portion defining a bottom of said reclosable bag;

~~means~~ a fastener structure for reclosably sealing said reclosable bag, said ~~means~~ fastener structure including a male track structure and a female track structure;

said male track structure including a first fin structure of web material extending therefrom and said female track structure including a second fin structure of web material extending therefrom;

each said fin structure including a predetermined coupling portion;

said coupling portion of said first fin structure being coupled to said first panel and said coupling portion of said second fin structure being coupled to said second panel;

said means for reclosably sealing fastener structure extending past said areas of structural weakness and into said fold structure;

said areas of structural weakness being located below said ~~means for reclosably sealing;~~ fastener structure;

a backing strip coupled to said second fin structure and having an edge extending downwardly from said second fin structure; and

an opening located between said second fin structure hood and said second side panel;

said reclosable bag capable of being filled with at least one food product through said fill opening.

170-178. (Cancelled).

179. (Currently Amended) A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product, said reclosable bag comprising:

at least one sheet of web material including a first area of structural weakness and a second area of structural weakness;

said sheet of web material including at least one fold structure located between and defined by said first and second areas of structural ~~weakness, a gusseted portion~~

~~located generally opposite said fold structure;~~ weakness, said fold structure defining a top of said reclosable bag;

9 said sheet of web material including a first panel coupled to said fold structure
10 adjacent said first area of structural weakness and a second panel;
11 a bottom portion included in said sheet of web material and located intermediate
12 said first and second side panels, said bottom portion defining a bottom of said reclosable
13 bag;
14 ~~and means for filling said bag with at least one food product located generally~~
15 ~~between said fold portion and said gusseted portion;~~
16 means a fastener structure for reclosably sealing said reclosable bag including a
17 male track structure and a female track structure;
18 said male track structure including a first fin structure of web material extending
19 therefrom and said female track structure including a second fin structure of web material
20 extending therefrom;
21 each said fin structure including a predetermined coupling portion;
22 said coupling portions being respectively coupled to said web material; first and
23 second panels;
24 one of said fin structures ~~being located adjacent said means for filling and~~
25 including a backing strip;
26 said backing strip located generally opposite said means for filling;
27 an opening for filling said bag with at least one food product located generally
28 between said backing strip and said second side panel;

29 said ~~means for reclosably sealing~~ fastener structure extending past said areas of
30 structural weakness and into said fold structure.

1 180-186. (Cancelled).

1 187. (New) A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product, said reclosable
2 bag comprising:

3 at least one sheet of web material including a hood having a fold located between
4 first and second ends of said hood, said hood also having first and second areas of
5 structural weakness respectively located intermediate said fold and said and second ends
6 of said hood, said fold defining a top of said reclosable bag;

7 a first side panel included in said web material and extending from said first end of
8 said hood;

9 a second side panel included in said web material;

10 a bottom portion included in said web material and located intermediate said first
11 and second side panels, said bottom portion defining a bottom of said reclosable bag;

12 a reclosable fastener structure including first and second interlockable fastener
13 tracks respectively having first and second skirt structures of skirt web material extending
14 therefrom, said first and second skirt structures each including a distal portion, said distal
15 portion of said first skirt structure being coupled to said first end of said hood and said

16 first side panel, said distal portion of said second skirt structure being coupled to said
17 second end of said hood;
18 a backing strip coupled to said second skirt structure and having an edge extending
19 downwardly from said distal portion of said second skirt structure; and
20 an opening located between said edge of said backing strip and said second side
21 panel;
22 wherein said first and second interlockable fastener tracks of said reclosable fastener
23 structure extend into said hood toward said top of said reclosable bag above said areas of
24 structural weakness, and wherein said reclosable bag is capable of being filled with at
25 least one food product through said opening.

1 188. (New) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 187, wherein said skirt web structures
2 are integral to said first and second interlockable fastener tracks.

1 189. (New) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 187, wherein said skirt web structures
2 are coupled to said first and second interlockable fastener tracks.

1 190. (New) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 187, wherein said skirt structures each
2 include an outside surface and an inside surface, and each of said outside and inside
3 surfaces includes a respective upper and lower portion.

1 191. (New) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 190, further comprising:
2 a backing strip adhesively joined to said inside surface of said skirt structure
3 having its distal portion coupled to said web material near the portion of said hood most
4 distal from said first panel.

1 192. (New) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 191, wherein said backing strip
2 extends below said lower portion of said inside surface of said skirt structure having its
3 distal portion coupled to said web material near the portion of said hood most distal from
4 said first panel.

1 193. (New) A reclosable bag of as defined in Claim 187, wherein said web material of
2 said reclosable bag is substantially comprised of a single sheet of a parent film material
3 having predetermined dimensions.

1 194. (New) A parent film material as defined in Claim 193, wherein said areas of
2 structural weakness are integral to said parent film material.

1 195. (New) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 187, wherein said areas of structural
2 weakness extend linearly across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of web material.

1 196. (New) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 195, wherein said predetermined
2 dimension of said sheet of web material is width.

1 197. (New) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 195, wherein said predetermined
2 dimension of said sheet of web material is length.

1 198. (New) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 187, wherein said areas of structural
2 weakness extend nonlinearly across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of said web
3 material.

1 199. (New) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 198, wherein said predetermined
2 dimension of said sheet of web material is width.

1 200. (New) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 198, wherein said predetermined
2 dimension of said sheet of web material is length.

1 201. (New) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 187, wherein said areas of structural
2 weakness extend across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of web material in a
3 predetermined pattern.

1 202. (New) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 187, wherein said areas of structural
2 weakness comprise perforations.

1 203. (New) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 187, wherein said areas of structural
2 weakness comprise scoring.

1 204. (New) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 187, wherein said areas of structural
2 weakness comprise microperforations.

1 205. (New) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 187, wherein said sheet of web
2 material is comprised of a multiple laminate film.

1 206. (New) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 205, wherein said multiple laminate
2 film comprises at least one layer of material comprising a tear path.

1 207. (New) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 187, wherein said reclosable fastener
2 structure comprises a slider fastener assembly.

1 208. (New) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 187, wherein said reclosable fastener
2 structure comprises a zipper fastener assembly.

1 209. (New) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 187, wherein said reclosable fastener
2 structure comprises a press-to-close fastener assembly.

1 210. (New) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 187, additionally comprising:
2 a peelable seal located between said first and second side panels.

211. A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 187, wherein said bottom portion comprises:
a gusseted portion extending between said bottoms of said front and rear panels,
said gusseted portion defining said bottom of said reclosable bag.

212. (New) A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product, said reclosable
bag comprising:

at least one sheet of web material defining:

a front panel having a top, a bottom, and sides;

a rear panel having a top, a bottom, and sides;

a bottom portion extending between said bottoms of said front and rear
panels, said bottom portion defining a bottom of said reclosable bag; and

a hood portion having a fold located at an intermediate location therein
which fold defines a top of said reclosable bag, said hood portion having sides and
first and second downwardly extending opposite ends, said first of said
downwardly extending opposite ends being connected to said top of said rear
panel;

an area of structural weakness located in said hood portion at an intermediate
location between said fold and each of said first and second downwardly extending
opposite ends;

a reclosable fastener including first and second interlockable fastener tracks
respectively having first and second skirt structures of skirt web material extending

18 downwardly therefrom, said first and second skirt structures each including a distal
19 portion, said distal portions of said first skirt structure being coupled to said hood at said
20 first downwardly extending opposite end, said distal portions of said second skirt
21 structure being coupled to said hood at said second downwardly extending opposite end;
22 and

23 a backing strip coupled to said second skirt structure and having an edge extending
24 downwardly from said distal portions of said second skirt structure; and

25 a fill opening located generally between said downwardly extending edge of said
26 backing strip and said top of said front panel;

27 wherein at least said first and second interlockable fastener tracks of said reclosable
28 fastener extend above said areas of structural weakness and into said hood, and wherein
29 said reclosable bag is capable of being filled with at least one food product through said
30 fill opening.

1 213. A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 212, wherein said bottom portion comprises:

2 a gusseted portion extending between said bottoms of said front and rear panels,
3 said gusseted portion defining said bottom of said reclosable bag.

1 214. (New) A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product, said reclosable
2 bag comprising:

at least one sheet of web material including a hood having first and second ends of said hood and a fold located between said first and second ends of said hood, said hood also having a first area of structural weakness located intermediate said first end of said hood and said fold and a second area of structural weakness located intermediate said second end of said hood and said fold, said fold defining a top of said reclosable bag; a first side panel included in said web material and extending from said first side of said hood;

a second side panel included in said web material;

a bottom portion included in said web material and located intermediate said first and second panels, said bottom portion defining a bottom of said reclosable bag;

a reclosable fastener structure including a first mating track structure and a second mating track structure, said first mating track structure including a first fin structure of web material extending therefrom and said second mating track structure including a second fin structure of web material extending therefrom, each said fin structure including a distal coupling portion, said distal coupling portion of said first fin structure being coupled to said first end of said hood, said distal coupling portion of said second fin structure being coupled to said second end of said hood;

a backing strip mounted on the side of said second fin structure opposite said second end of said hood, said backing strip being coupled and having an edge extending downwardly from said second fin structure; and

23 a fill opening located generally between said downwardly extending edge of said
24 backing strip and said second side panel;
25 wherein said first and second mating track structures extend above said areas of structural
26 weakness and into said hood toward said top of said reclosable bag, and wherein said
27 reclosable bag is capable of being filled with at least one food product through said fill
28 opening.

1 215. A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 214, wherein said bottom portion comprises:
2 a gusseted portion extending between said bottoms of said front and rear panels,
3 said gusseted portion defining said bottom of said reclosable bag.

1 216. A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 148, wherein said bottom portion comprises:
2 a gusseted portion extending between said first and second panels, said gusseted
3 portion defining said bottom of said reclosable bag.

1 217. (New) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 169, wherein said bottom portion
2 comprises:
3 a gusseted portion extending between said first and second side panels, said
4 gusseted portion defining said bottom of said cheese bag.

- 1 218. (New) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 179, wherein said bottom portion
2 comprises:
3 a gusseted portion extending between said first and second side panels, said
4 gusseted portion defining said bottom of said reclosable bag.